

Leicester, Jan. 16, 1886

Dear James:

Sarah was the first one to take up the "Chr.
Reg." last eve^g, and, after awhile, came to the Glass
Poem, - which we at once read aloud. So my inquiry on
that point is fully answered.

Since I sent you my long scrawl the other day,
I have taken up the Vol. of T. Parker, wh. you edited -
a handsome, creditable & valuable book. I read the
Preface with especial care. What you say of T. P's,
"tremendous philippics against the defenders of slavery"
you would, of course, say of others, - older (if not better)
soldiers than he, in that war. "with all this acrid
speech, his disposition was kind & affectionate" - most
true, and true too of others, much more sinned against
than sinning in that particular. (It should make a
diff^{ce} - should it not? - in our judgement of severe lan-
guage, whether it was appropriate, or inappropriate?
applicable or inapplicable?)

Then your next paragraph - wherein you speak
(so truly, as I hope and suppose) of the change of
feeling in the Unitarians towards T. P. Will you not
apply it farther? and take in W. L. Garrison? Is not
something large, broad, & generous due to him, his spirit,
his work, from the Unitarians? If you agree with me
on this. let me ask, who can render it so well & ef-
fectively, as yourself? Can you find much - if anything -

discourteous, on his part, tow'ds Unitarians? On the other hand, Did you not hear- I did - in the meeting of Unit.ⁿ ministers, D. Gannett^r vehemently declare that M.^r Garrison was actuated by "a hellish spirit"? (D. G. doubted this; and expressed regrets afterwards for having used this^r particular language, if he did use it - but made no farther retraction.) And Mr. Garrison sat by, when Dr. G. passionately threw those false, vile words at him. I do not overstate this matter.- The Unitarians, for their own honor, need to make some avowals, some retractions, as to this matter of Slavery;- and to make them heartily & unqualifiedly:- to the end that their own souls may be the better made ready for the work before them now. The enclosed slip comes to my notice., since I wrote you.

Yrs. affectly -

1

Sam May

